the difference between the prices charged and prices fixed for Betamethason and its salts and show the figure every year in their balance sheets;

(b) if so, what are the amounts shown in their balance sheets from 1982 to 1985 and whether the amount worked out by Glaxo were verified by Government;

(c) what were the reasons for non-fixation of prices of formulations based on these drugs along with the fixation of bulk drug prices;

(d) whether it is also a fact that due to this Glaxo is only liable to pay the difference on bulk drugs whereas on formulation the company has been allowed to make unintended benefits; and

(e) if so, what steps have been taken and what is the present status of writ petition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Information is being collected.

(c) Prices of Betamethasone and its salts were reduced on 12th May, 1981. Before the formulation prices could be reduced M|s. Glaxo Labs. obtained stay from the Delhi High Court against the reduction in prices of bulk drugs and the proposed reduction in prices of formulation.

(d) and (e) Delhi High Court has not yet finally heard this case. The amount to be recovered, if any, would depend upon the judgement of the Court.

2219. [*Transferred to the 17th December,* 1985.]

Vacancies of functional directors in Public Sector Undertakings

2220. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

SHRI BHIM RAJ:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many vacancies of functional directors are lying unfilled as on the 15th November, 1985 in the Public Enterprises under his Ministry;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to appoint functional directors in the Enterprises; and

(c) how many of these vacancies are lying unfilled for over three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) There are 24 posts of Functional Directors lying vacant as on 15.11.1985.

(b) The requisite steps for filling up vacancies, where necessary have been taken.

(c) 18 vacancies have been in existence for over three months.

Indian delegation visit to Saudi Arabia and other gulf countries

2221. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Delegation recently visited Saudi Arabia and other oil producing gulf countries;

(b) whether India is reviewing its present three year oil import pact with Saudi Arabia for import of 2 million tonnes of crude; if so, at what stage the matter stands;

(c) whether terms of the fresh contract have been finalised by the Indian Oil Corporation and Saudi Company Petromin; and

(d) what are the spot purchases; if any; negotiated by this Delegation in view of the falling oil prices in the Gulf countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) An Indian delegation visited Saudi Arabia in the month of October, 1985.

(b) to (d) Contracts for supply of crude oil on Government to Government basis are generally concluded on a year to year basis. The contracts for import of crude oil for the year 1986 from various countries including Saudi Arabia is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

***Suspension* and removal of officers**

2222. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some employees and officials have been charge-sheeted, suspended and removed from service during 1st January, 1985 to 31st October, 1985 from various offices of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas on various charges;

(b) if so, the names, status and the details of such employees and officials;

(c) what are the details of the findings and recommendations of enquiry Committees, Commisssion and CBI in this connection;

(d) the action taken on each Report, finding and recommendation; and

(e) the number of employees and officials who have gone to the courts against the action and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Over charging of prices of drugs

2223. SHRI (MOLANA) ASRARUL HAQ:

SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the MJinister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to Drugs Price Control Order 1979 drug manufacturing units having an annual sales turn over up to Rupees Fifty lacs are exempted from the operation of Paras 13 and 14 of the Order;

(b) whether it is a fact that number of units are marketing their formulations without obtaining price approval and over charge the price depite the fact that their sales turn over had exceed Rupees Fifty lakhs for the last three to four years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that number of such instances are within the notice of Government;

(d) if so, since when and what are the reasons for non-action by Government and for allowing the companies to overcharge the poor people of the country; and

(e) by when faire prices will be fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A number of such instances have come to the notice of the Government.

(d) and (e) Notices have been issued to a number of units and the action against them is already on in accordance with the due procedure of law.

Shortage of anti T. B. drug

2224. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the manufacturers who are producing PAS Acid, PAS Sodium, Streptomycin Sulphate, Thiacetazine and Calcium PAS along with licensed and installed capacity of each;

(b) what was the production of each drug of each company during the last thre years, yearwise along with the production for the period ending 31st October 1985;

(c) whether it is a fact that all these drugs ared for the treatment of T.D.1